

## Golden 511

### Chapter 512 Arrangements

"Brother Lei, this batch of gold wasn't in China, nor was it stolen by the Japanese. It's not fair that I get none of it."

Zhuang Rui smiled slyly and began bargaining with Ouyang Lei. He had almost risked his life for this batch of gold; the country wouldn't take it for free. Although he had told Ouyang Lei what had happened, only Zhuang Rui and Peng Fei knew the exact location of the treasure.

"You little rascal, stop talking nonsense, it's like the country is trying to take advantage of you. Let me tell you the truth, 10 tons of gold, the country really doesn't care about it..."

Ouyang Lei was amused by Zhuang Rui's shameless behavior. The reason he said those words was actually because he was considering Zhuang Rui's interests.

Ouyang Lei was indeed a Chinese general, but he was also Zhuang Rui's cousin, so this gold did not originally belong to the state.

Moreover, as Ouyang Lei said, China's current gold reserves are measured in thousands of tons. Although 10 tons of gold is a lot, the country would not go so far as to take advantage of Zhuang Rui for that.

"Brother Lei, what do you think we should do about this? I urgently need money right now, and I want to bring the gold back to invest in some projects..." Zhuang Rui also told the truth.

He had also inquired about the international gold exchange rate in the past few days. 24K gold is now equal to 125 RMB per gram, which is about double what it was 10 years ago. Zhuang Rui's intention in contacting Ouyang Lei was indeed to use this gold to invest in a jade mine in Myanmar.

Ouyang Lei lowered his head and pondered for a moment. If this matter were handed over to the state, his little cousin probably wouldn't even get a certificate of merit, because stealing gold from abroad was something that couldn't be publicized.

After thinking for a while, Ouyang Lei raised his head and said, "How about this, Xiao Rui, I'll provide you with a transport helicopter. You can find all the relevant personnel yourself. After the gold is transported back to China, you can contribute 30% as transportation costs. What do you think?"

Ouyang Lei knew that Zhuang Rui had hired someone from a special forces unit; flying a helicopter was a piece of cake for them. Even Hao Long could operate a helicopter skillfully, let alone that person.

Ouyang Lei's actions were actually a violation of discipline, but he faced almost no risk in doing so, because given his status and position, it would be easy for him to move a helicopter without anyone noticing.

The military is not as complicated as civilian life. They execute orders from superiors thoroughly and without much questioning. As a result, in the last century, many smuggling gangs even rented military transport convoys.

"Brother Lei, you're even more ruthless than Grandpa! He only asked me for tens of millions by using a transport plane once, but you just ask for over three hundred million..."

Zhuang Rui exclaimed dramatically upon hearing this, but in his heart he was absolutely willing. He had previously considered using a helicopter to smuggle himself to Myanmar and retrieve the gold, but ordinary helicopters simply couldn't transport 10 tons of gold, and there were also dangers involved in crossing the border illegally.

If Ouyang Lei were willing to help, none of this would be a problem. Zhuang Rui would agree to take half, let alone just 30%.

Just imagining his basement filled with gold made Zhuang Rui's mouth water. Jade and gold placed together, that's what you call a house full of gold and jade.

"You brat, don't try to act innocent after getting a good deal. I've already put my personal feelings above national interests by doing this. This is a one-time thing, and there won't be a next time. If you don't agree, get the hell out of here..."

The 30% of gold that Ouyang Lei wanted was intended to be invested in a military research project he was currently in charge of. It wasn't that the country was short of money, but rather that he didn't want Zhuang Rui to benefit from it for nothing. If you use something from the country, you have to give something in return.

"Agreed, agreed..." Seeing Ouyang Lei about to turn hostile, Zhuang Rui quickly put on a smiling face; his previous miserly expression had vanished completely.

"Okay, let's leave it at that then. We'll deal with this after the New Year. Your arm is injured, so don't go running around..."

Once the matter was settled, Ouyang Lei dismissed him. He was initially shocked by the matter, but upon reflection, it was not a big deal. For Ouyang Lei, over a billion yuan was merely a research project funding awaiting approval.

Ouyang Lei marveled at Zhuang Rui's good fortune; on his first trip abroad, he managed to find Japanese war trophies from Burma during World War II. Of course, Ouyang Lei, being a young and promising soldier, naturally wouldn't have thought of returning the gold to Burma.

China has often made foolish mistakes in the past. Its own people tightened their belts, consuming only 20 kilograms of food per month, while sending rice and flour to support Africa and Vietnam. In the end, the Vietnamese devils, ungrateful for China's kindness, used the guns and ammunition provided by China to fight against China.

And those so-called African brother countries are even more outrageous. As soon as China reduced its support, they immediately switched sides and started supporting Taiwan. This is exactly what the old saying means: whoever feeds you is your mother. They are all ungrateful wretches.

"No, Brother Lei, don't wait until after the New Year. I urgently need the money right now. Otherwise, would I be in such a hurry to come to you?"

Zhuang Rui got anxious when he heard Ouyang Lei's words. How come these two brothers are so alike? They should stop using the surname Ouyang and start using "tuo" (meaning "dragging") instead, because they are so slow in doing things.

"So urgent?"

Ouyang Lei frowned, took out a military map from the bookshelf and looked at it. After a while, he said, "Here's what we'll do. The day after tomorrow, you'll arrange for someone to go to a location 60 kilometers southwest of Ruili. I'll give you the coordinates then. The helicopter will be parked there. It must be returned within 24 hours. Can you do that?"

When Ouyang Lei spoke to Zhuang Rui, he unconsciously adopted a military tone.

"Reporting to the commander, no problem!"

Zhuang Rui gave a rather awkward military salute, which Ouyang Lei then jokingly chased out of the study.

"So, is there a problem?"

After returning to the courtyard, Zhuang Rui and Peng Fei went to the backyard and told him everything.

"No problem, Brother Zhuang, I can operate anything except submarines..."

Peng Fei answered confidently, but then he frowned and said, "Brother Zhuang, even if I could move that batch of gold onto the helicopter by myself, where would I put it back in China?"

"It's not just you going; I'll be going too. Also, I'll call Zhou Rui later and have him come over tomorrow. Apart from the gold handed over to the country, the rest won't be transported to China at all; it'll be disposed of directly in Myanmar..."

After Ouyang Lei agreed to lend him a helicopter, Zhuang Rui started to make calculations. According to Chinese law, carrying more than 50 grams of non-finished gold into the country constitutes smuggling. Even if the 30% gold given to Ouyang Lei is deducted, there are still seven tons left, enough to warrant dozens of executions.

Okay, even without considering that factor, Zhuang Rui still can't exchange the remaining seven tons of gold for cash in China. Although some gold shops do buy back gold, which gold shop in China can handle a whole seven tons of gold? He'd probably only be able to produce a hundred or so kilograms before the relevant authorities came knocking on his door.

Sell them piecemeal? That would take forever! Zhuang Rui desperately needs the money.

Zhuang Rui's idea was to trade the gold directly to Hu Rong in Myanmar. You see, the Burmese people have never recognized the Burmese kyat. They recognize gold first, then the US dollar, and then the euro.

In Myanmar, many transactions between jade companies are even conducted using gold. People with even a little wealth in Myanmar often have several pieces of gold hidden under their beds. Therefore, gold worth over 1 billion RMB can be easily absorbed in Myanmar.

Two tons of gold would be enough for Zhuang Rui to use for his investment in the mine. He planned to have Hu Rong help him sell three tons in Myanmar, and he intended to ship the remaining two tons of gold back to China through normal channels, which would only require paying some money. In fact, Zhuang Rui had never given up on the vulgar idea of filling his basement with gold.

As for the three tons of gold promised to Ouyang Lei, Zhuang Rui will simply leave it on the helicopter. How to handle it is Ouyang Lei's business. He believes that these matters are not difficult for Ouyang Lei. He can just make up a reason such as chasing overseas drug traffickers and seizing gold.

"Brother Zhuang, your arm is injured, so don't go. The old squad leader and I can handle it..."

Peng Fei still felt a lingering fear when he recalled what had happened in the jungles of Myanmar. If that leopard had pounced on Zhuang Rui's head, the consequences would probably have been more than just a broken bone.

Zhuang Rui shook his head and said, "No, I have to go. You wouldn't understand about this kind of deal. Alright, go be with your girlfriend. It'll be another two days of travel..."

Zhang Qian is a teacher, and it's currently winter vacation. After reconciling with Peng Fei, she comes here to see him almost every day. Zhuang Rui arranged a three-room suite with a central hall, bathroom, kitchen, and toilet for them in the central courtyard, so they can finally live a comfortable life.

After Peng Fei left, Zhuang Rui first called Zhou Rui and asked him to come to Beijing overnight. Zhou Rui didn't ask what it was about, just agreed and hung up.

“Brother Hu, this is Zhuang Rui...”

Zhuang Rui then called Hu Rong, and only through communication with Hu Rong could he determine whether his idea could be realized.

"Brother Zhuang, is your injury alright? I'll be going to China after the New Year, so I can attend your engagement ceremony..." Hu Rong's voice rang out on the other end of the phone. Although he wanted to ask Zhuang Rui about the fundraising, he didn't say it on the phone.

"Brother Hu, there's no need to wait until after the New Year. I'll be going to Myanmar the day after tomorrow. By the way, is it alright to pay you for your mine shares with gold?"

"Pay with gold? Of course, but brother, how do you transport the gold to Myanmar?"

Hu Rong was taken aback by Zhuang Rui's words. Gold was a hard currency in Myanmar, more valuable than the US dollar or the euro.

Chapter 513-514 Unveiling the Treasure

"Brother Hu, how to transport the goods is my responsibility. The day after tomorrow afternoon, you can find some reliable people to wait at the mine, and I will deliver the gold.

"I also have some gold that's difficult to sell in China, and I'd like to trouble Brother Hu to help me launder it in Myanmar..."

Zhuang Rui's words sent shockwaves through Hu Rong's mind. You see, gold is an extremely important strategic reserve for every country. Others are scrambling to buy it, but Zhuang Rui is sending it abroad.

Moreover, judging from Zhuang Rui's words, the amount of gold he owns should be far more than what he bought for his own mining shares.

"Could it be that Zhuang Rui invested in the mine in order to launder money?"

Hu Rong had this thought in his mind. It's no wonder he thought this way. In today's society, there are all sorts of ways to launder money internationally. Some huge sums of money that can't be seen in the light of day may shrink significantly after going abroad, but when they return to China, they are clean money.

In the modern sense, money laundering refers to the act of using financial institutions to conceal or disguise the source and nature of illegal proceeds and profits from drug crimes, organized crime, terrorist activities, smuggling, or other crimes, thereby making them appear legitimate.

If this gold belongs to the Ouyang family, it naturally couldn't have come from organized crime or gambling smuggling. Instead, it must have been used for other illegal gains. Hu Rong wasn't surprised by this, because all the generals in Myanmar had huge sums of money deposited abroad.

In addition, there are many other ways to launder money, such as purchasing real estate, jewelry, antiques, etc., and then converting them into cash or other financial assets.

"Brother Zhuang, there are actually many other ways to launder this gold..."

Hu Rong immediately realized that the gold definitely didn't belong to Zhuang Rui, but rather to the Ouyang family behind him. So he subtly reminded Zhuang Rui that he didn't need to launder money by investing in a mine. If it really was a dead mine, the price they would pay would be too high.

Although Hu Rong is now a Burmese citizen, he knows that he cannot afford to offend the Ouyang family. If China puts pressure on Myanmar, it can easily find some excuse to make him unable to stay in Myanmar. Haven't you seen those corrupt officials who fled China? None of them have fled to Myanmar.

Moreover, the politics here are too complicated. Today the Ouyang family is in power, but tomorrow they may fall from grace. Helping them launder money also carries risks, so Hu Rong doesn't really want to get involved in this mess.

However, Hu Rong had no idea that this was entirely Zhuang Rui's own business and had nothing to do with the Ouyang family. Moreover, investing in his jade mine was like raising a flock of golden hens—a sure-fire way to make money.

Zhuang Rui sensed that Hu Rong was being somewhat reluctant and said, "Brother Hu, if it's cash or bank deposits, I can still find a way, but it would be better to have the gold shipped through Myanmar. If that's difficult for you, then I'll think of another way..."

Zhuang Rui was originally a finance major, so he was familiar with all sorts of money laundering methods. If it weren't for the gold, he would have dozens of ways to legalize the money.

For Zhuang Rui, the simplest way to launder money was to find any auction house, bring out three or five antiques, and then find someone to act as a shill to buy them at a high price. Wouldn't that turn the money into legitimate income? At most, he would only have to pay the auction house some commission.

"No...no, Brother Zhuang, that's not what I meant. If you've decided, then bring them over. I'll bring all the miners back for the New Year tomorrow to make some arrangements in advance..."

After hearing Zhuang Rui's words, Hu Rong hesitated for a moment before readily agreeing. He knew that some changes had occurred in the domestic political arena, with the Ouyang family rising to prominence and having successors. He felt the risk was worth taking.

"Alright, Brother Hu, thank you very much. See you in a couple of days..."

Hearing Hu Rong's words, Zhuang Rui knew the matter was resolved and was in high spirits. What he didn't know was that Hu Rong's misunderstanding had actually given him a significant advantage; in subsequent gold transactions, Hu Rong didn't receive a single penny of commission.

"Liu Chuan, what brings you here?"

The next morning, just as dawn was breaking, Zhuang Rui was still lying in bed when the covers were pulled off, and a pair of icy hands reached inside, making Zhuang Rui shiver. He opened his eyes and found Liu Chuan looking at him with a wicked grin.

"I've come to see my godmother. Well, Sister Min and Brother Guodong are here too. You little rascal, if you don't go back to Pengcheng to wish my dad a Happy New Year, you'll be in trouble."

Hey, I have to say, your house looks really nice after the renovation. I'll buy some land in Pengcheng and build one like that too..."

Liu Chuan wandered around Zhuang Rui's house, praising it. He had been to this courtyard before when it was abandoned, but it had changed drastically this time. When he arrived at the gate, he almost didn't recognize the two large stone lions.

As Zhuang Rui got up and put on his clothes, he said to Liu Chuan, "I'm going back to Pengcheng after the New Year. Since you're here, why don't you stay for a few days? I need to talk to Brother Zhou about something and will be out for a couple of days..."

"No way, I'll go even if something comes up. Leilei is going back to Hong Kong for Chinese New Year this year, and I'm really bored..."

When Liu Chuan heard Zhuang Rui say he had something to do, his eyes immediately lit up. He had heard about Zhuang Rui's splendid gambling on Hong Kong gambling ships and his splendid experience at the Myanmar jade auction. He himself had missed it all, which made Liu Chuan complain to Lei Lei several times.

"You're going too?"

Zhuang Rui hesitated for a moment. If he had to say who he trusted most, Liu Chuan would definitely be number one. After all, the two of them had grown up together, playing in the mud together, and knew each other too well.

However, Liu Chuan is a big mouth, and he's afraid that Liu Chuan might get drunk and brag about it to others.

"You're coming with me to do some work..."

"Go do the work too? You little thing, you think you're any better than me? Let me tell you, your brother's in bed..."

"Okay, okay, let's go, stop talking nonsense, I'll take you, alright..."

Zhuang Rui was truly afraid of Liu Chuan. Ever since this guy found out he wasn't a virgin, he'd always try to outlast him, acting like he was some kind of reincarnation of Ximen Qing.

"You rascal, I'm getting serious. This trip is very important, and it absolutely has to be kept secret. If you agree, you can come with me; otherwise, forget it..."

Zhuang Rui straightened his expression and said to Liu Chuan in a very serious tone. In fact, he knew in his heart that it was really unreliable to expect Liu Chuan, with his big mouth, to keep a secret.

"Can't even my wife tell? Can't you just let my wife tell me?" Liu Chuan hesitated for a moment. He knew his own problem; he couldn't keep things to himself.

"Whatever... whatever you want, anyway, nobody really believes what you say..."

Zhuang Rui glared at Liu Chuan, both amused and exasperated. His brother was always boasting, and few people in his circle took him seriously. Besides, no one would believe what he was about to do.

Even if someone believed Liu Chuan's words, there was no way to verify the matter, so Zhuang Rui was too lazy to explain it to him anymore. Let him go; it would give them an extra manpower to move the gold.

After a quick wash, Zhuang Rui went to the front yard to see Zhou Rui. Zhou Rui was chatting with Peng Fei. They came from the same unit, and Zhou Rui was Peng Fei's old sergeant. Their friendship was much deeper than that of the "Buddha" at the Ruili border station.

"Brother Hao, why don't you come along too..."

After meeting Zhou Rui in the front yard, Zhuang Rui thought for a moment and decided to bring Hao Long along. Firstly, Hao Long was introduced by Ouyang Lei, so his loyalty shouldn't be an issue. Secondly, Hao Long, like Peng Fei, was a security guard he had hired.

If this matter is kept from Hao Long, it will definitely create a rift between them in the future. It's better to bring them all along. After the matter is over, he will give each of them a sum of money, and let them choose whether to stay or leave. However, Zhuang Rui believes that they will all stay.

Two hours later, Zhuang Rui and his group of five boarded a flight to Yunnan. However, Zhuang Rui looked a bit disheveled because he had been severely scolded by his mother when he left home.

Although Ouyang Wan doesn't usually concern herself with her son's affairs, today is the Little New Year, and even Zhuang Min and Zhao Guodong have come to Beijing. The family could have gathered together for a meal, but her son is going out again, which makes Ouyang Wan very unhappy. Although she eventually lets him go, she still reminisces about the time when she was a teacher disciplining her students.

After getting off the plane, it was already afternoon. Zhuang Rui and the others did not go to Ruili, but instead found a hotel in Mangshi and registered several rooms. Only then did Zhuang Rui tell Liu Chuan and the others the purpose of their trip.

When Zhou Rui and the others heard this, it was like hearing a fairy tale. However, since they were already in Yunnan, they figured Zhuang Rui wouldn't lie to them.

Since it wasn't something that had been smuggled out of China, there was no psychological burden in taking it. So, after their initial shock, Zhou Rui and Hao Long quickly adjusted their mindset. Going abroad to carry out missions wasn't a first for them.

As for Liu Chuan, he was even more excited. After hearing Zhuang Rui say that he had killed a leopard, he kept shouting that he wanted to go to Myanmar to kill a tiger. Zhuang Rui naturally chose to ignore what he said.

"Alright, let's divide the work now. We need a car to get to the helicopter location, so Peng Fei will take care of that."

"Brother Hao and Brother Zhou, let's go to the mall together and buy four backpacks, the bigger but not too conspicuous ones, and also some foldable suitcases..."

After explaining the whole story to the group, Zhuang Rui began assigning tasks.

Because the boxes inside the cave had Japanese writing on them, the gold in the tin boxes had to be taken out and put back into the box he brought with him. Zhuang Rui knew of a foldable canvas box with wheels that was perfect for storing gold.

As for buying a backpack, Zhuang Rui had considered the batch of jewelry.

Zhuang Rui didn't look closely that day, but the so-called thirty boxes of jewelry was probably a translation error by Peng Fei. It would be more accurate to call it thirty boxes. Each box was not large, similar to the lacquer boxes used by ordinary people in Pingyao, Shanxi.

Zhuang Rui didn't want to hand over those jewels to Hu Rong because some of them had Burmese characteristics, and Hu Rong would definitely be able to recognize them.

Fortunately, there weren't many things, and they were all small items, so Zhuang Rui prepared a few backpacks, and each person carried one.

Arriving at the largest shopping mall in Mangshi, Zhuang Rui took a fancy to a box that folded up to be only a thin layer, made of green canvas, with a soft leather lining. It was quite suitable for temporarily storing gold.

According to the salesperson, many people who come to Yunnan to gamble on stones use this kind of box to store their raw stones. Zhuang Rui asked and found that they still had fifty in stock, which he ordered.

These boxes are quite large. Zhuang Rui measured them and estimated that they could easily hold one or two hundred gold bars. The gold bars were quite large; although he didn't lift them, Zhuang Rui estimated that each one weighed two or three pounds. They were probably made by the Japanese using molds after being melted down for easier transport.

However, even when folded up, these boxes still took up a considerable amount of space. Helpless, Zhuang Rui called Peng Fei and asked him to find a passenger and cargo vehicle.

As the mall was about to close in the evening, Peng Fei drove up in a small truck that could seat four people in the front and had a container in the back, and that's how he managed to put all the dozens of boxes inside.

Nothing happened that night. The next morning around four o'clock, the group drove to the China-Myanmar border. Zhuang Rui had already obtained the coordinates from Ouyang Lei. Peng Fei knew the terrain like the back of his hand. After looking at the coordinates, he didn't even need a map and drove straight there.

However, when they were still more than ten kilometers away from the coordinates, they were stopped and checked several times because a small-scale military exercise was taking place in the area, and soldiers were guarding several main passages.

After learning that Zhuang Rui planned to directly use the other seven tons of gold in Myanmar, Ouyang Lei openly submitted a written document to several senior officials of the Central Military Commission for approval. The subject matter was that a certain patriotic person had donated a batch of gold to the country, and the military needed to provide certain cooperation.

This matter was initiated by Ouyang Lei, so naturally he was put in charge. Thus, the xxx Special Forces Division came to be conducting this exercise.

After Zhuang Rui relayed the password given to him by Ouyang Lei, he proceeded without hindrance and arrived at the coordinates.

"Wow, that's amazing! Such a big helicopter!"

Before even getting out of the car, Liu Chuan excitedly shouted as he spotted a helicopter in the distance. In front of them was an open space covering several hundred square meters, surrounded by weeds, where a helicopter was quietly parked.

This helicopter is quite large, at least twice the size of the beat-up helicopter Zhuang Rui rode in Myanmar, and it's entirely military green.

However, the areas on both sides of the cabin that should have had five stars and the August 1st mark were painted with a layer of black paint, which looked a little out of place.

There's nothing we can do about it, since this isn't exactly aboveboard. If the helicopter were discovered by the Myanmar military within Myanmar's borders and had no markings, there would be some room for maneuver.

Of course, the chances of being discovered are quite small, because there are hardly any troops stationed on the China-Myanmar border. Even the Burmese military government, which couldn't defeat the defeated Kuomintang troops back then, knows that it would be useless to station more troops on the China-Myanmar border, so they simply transferred most of their troops to the area where northern Myanmar borders India.

"There aren't many of these helicopters in the country. Sergeant, who do you want to fly, or should I?"

Peng Fei parked the car next to the helicopter and turned to ask Zhou Rui. Since the car could only seat four people, Zhou Rui, Hao Long, and Peng Fei were squeezed into the back row.

"You drive it, I haven't touched this in years, I'm out of practice..."

Zhou Rui knew that in terms of military skills and the use of these equipment, he was still inferior to Peng Fei. When Zhou Rui retired from the military, Peng Fei was already a recognized king of soldiers.

Zhuang Rui got out of the car and exchanged passwords with a captain who was guarding the helicopter. The passwords were complicated; of course, they weren't something like "Heavenly King covers the Earth Tiger Pagoda suppresses the River Demon," but rather a combination of numbers and English letters.

Upon hearing that Zhuang Rui's password was correct, the officer handed over the helicopter to Zhuang Rui without even checking his identification, and told him about the helicopter's configuration, fuel capacity, and flight time.

Some friends may think this is too hasty, but that's how it is in the military. Orders must be obeyed without question. This is the discipline of the military, unlike the fussing of local police. Anyone who has served in the military knows that in the military, an order is an order, and there is no room for negotiation.

There were also some plastic explosives on the plane, which Zhuang Rui specifically requested. Due to the short time and the strict control over these things in China, even if Peng Fei was very capable, he couldn't get these things. So Zhuang Rui asked Ouyang Lei for some. We couldn't very well use shovels to dig open the collapsed hole later, could we?

After the captain finished the handover, he drove away. His orders were to return in 24 hours. As for what the helicopter was doing or who would be piloting it, that was none of his business.

After the group moved all the boxes and backpacks onto the huge helicopter, Peng Fei sat in the pilot's seat, started the engine, and slowly took off.

The helicopter's cabin door is sealed. Once the door is closed, the noise from the wind and the rotors immediately decreases, unlike the crappy helicopter I rode in in Myanmar, where my mouth was immediately filled with air.

"Awesome, awesome! Damn, you've got a life this exciting! I can't believe it, I'm moving to Beijing too, I'll move into your courtyard house, and I'll follow you wherever you go..."

This was Liu Chuan's first time in a helicopter, and he was gesturing wildly in the cabin. He regretted not bringing a camera; otherwise, he could have taken a picture, which would have been so impressive.

"What a load of rubbish! You'd follow me into bed with my wife?"

Zhuang Rui glared at Liu Chuan in annoyance. He should have asked Ouyang Lei to get a beat-up plane so that Liu Chuan could experience the turbulence.

Peng Fei flew the helicopter along the edge of the Savage Mountain Range into Myanmar. The dense jungle came into view again. Looking at the familiar scene below, Zhuang Rui couldn't help but touch his left shoulder, which was still aching slightly.

"Old squad leader, could you help me estimate the landing site?"

After a two-hour flight, the helicopter arrived at the hillside where the cave containing the gold was located. Fortunately, there were no tall trees there, so the helicopter could barely land.

The strong wind generated by the propellers caused the withered yellow weeds on the ground to stick tightly to the ground, and even the smaller rocks rolled around. After several corrections, the helicopter slowly landed.

At this moment, Peng Fei's forehead was also covered with beads of sweat the size of soybeans. You must know that flying an aircraft in mountainous terrain is an absolute test for any pilot.

Zhuang Rui glanced at his watch; it was 10:20. He couldn't contact Hu Rong from here, so he could only move the gold and head straight to the mine, trusting that Hu Rong would have someone waiting there.

After getting off the helicopter, the group took entrenching tools and, following Zhuang Rui's directions, cleared away the weeds around the collapsed cave entrance. Peng Fei measured the height of the cave and set up a bombing point at each of the four corners.

"boom!!!"

A loud explosion rang out, and rubble shot out from the cave entrance, hitting the helicopter with a crackling sound and leaving white spots on its outer shell.

After the dust settled, a dark, over a meter-high opening appeared before them. Liu Chuan, being recklessly bold, immediately threw down his shovel and ran towards the opening. Peng Fei tried to stop

him but couldn't, shouting from behind, "Wait a bit before going in! The cave has been sealed for too long; let it ventilate a bit..."

"My goodness, what a huge snake..."

Before Peng Fei could finish speaking, Liu Chuan came running back in a panic, pointing at the cave entrance with one hand, clearly terrified.

The Burmese python that Zhuang Rui had seen last time swayed as it crawled out of the cave. It seemed that the explosion had left it somewhat disoriented. It circled the cave entrance for a while before slowly disappearing into the grass.

The cave wasn't very big, only about 20 meters long. After waiting for more than half an hour and clearing away the rubble at the entrance, Peng Fei took a flashlight and went first, followed by the others. Zhou Rui stayed outside to keep watch.

"Cough cough... This... this is all gold?"

After entering the cave, the group shook off the dust on the cave walls, causing Liu Chuan to cough as soon as he opened his mouth.

The cave had clearly been modified by Japanese soldiers. Although it was not long, it was very wide, and three or four people could stand inside side by side. At the end of the cave, more than a dozen boxes stacked together were presented in front of the group.

Each box is the same size, about two meters long, and about one meter high and wide. These boxes are not entirely made of sheet metal; some wood can be seen at the joints. When two boxes are stacked together, the height exceeds two meters.

Each box was sealed with a seal, but by now it had long since turned to dust, and only a few traces could be seen.

On the box facing Zhuang Rui and the others, there was an iron lock, which was also covered in rust.

"Liu Chuan, no! Be careful!"

Liu Chuan took a shovel and shoveled at the iron lock. Suddenly, the two boxes stacked together fell apart.

The broken box and the palm-sized gold brick, gleaming brightly under the lights, crashed down on Liu Chuan.

Chapter 515 Share Transactions

While a house overflowing with gold and jade is everyone's dream, being hit by a gold brick the size of a baby's palm—extremely thin yet incredibly heavy—is hardly a pleasant experience.

Although Peng Fei warned Liu Chuan before the box broke and pulled him back, Liu Chuan still couldn't completely dodge it. A gold brick that slid down from the box above grazed his head, and blood immediately gushed out.

"Holy crap, this isn't gold, it's a bomb..."

Blood dripped from his forehead into his mouth, and Liu Chuan screamed. He wiped his hand with it and looked at it under the light; his hand was covered in blood.

"Get out of here, retreat first. Peng Fei, bandage Da Chuan..."

Seeing the chaotic scene inside the cave, Zhuang Rui couldn't help but regret bringing Liu Chuan along. He was good at causing trouble, but not at handling serious matters.

Fortunately, Liu Chuan only had a cut on his forehead and didn't need bandaging. Peng Fei took a bottle of mineral water from the helicopter, cleaned it for him, and then applied a Band-Aid. There was nothing seriously wrong with him.

While Liu Chuan was treating his wounds, Zhuang Rui examined the gold brick in his hand, which he had casually picked up when he came out of the cave.

This gold brick is only four or five centimeters long, about two centimeters wide, and less than one centimeter thick. It's more like a gold bar. Although it's very small, it feels heavy in your hand and shines with a dazzling golden light in the sunlight.

Zhuang Rui estimated that this tiny bit should weigh about 1,000 grams, or about one kilogram. Although Zhuang Rui knew that the specific gravity of gold was 32, he did not expect that such a small amount would be so heavy.

"It seems different from what I saw that day?"

Zhuang Rui was somewhat puzzled. All he had seen that day were large gold bricks. Thinking of this, Zhuang Rui turned his head and used the spiritual energy in his eyes to look into the cave.

"So that's how it is..."

After careful observation, Zhuang Rui realized that the large gold bricks were actually formed by arranging these smaller gold bricks together, and at first glance, they looked like a single, complete gold brick.

Moreover, these boxes didn't contain only gold bars. In one box, which was about half a person tall, most of the space was filled with wooden frames, on which the gold was neatly arranged.

"Damn, oh my, how come there's still so much wood?"

Zhuang Rui was looking at the gold when Liu Chuan's shout came from inside the cave again. Then the guy ran out, a splinter stuck in his palm, which he was pointing at the sunlight and trying to poke at.

"Don't go in, kid. Those pieces of wood are for load-bearing. Gold is denser than most metals, so it needs to be separated to move it. If you put it all in one box, there won't be any cranes available..."

Zhuang Rui also figured out the key point, got up and took out a few boxes from the helicopter, and went back inside with Peng Fei and Hao Long.

Once inside the cave, Peng Fei attached two powerful spotlights to the rock wall, instantly illuminating the cave.

"No, each box can only hold a maximum of 100 yuan. Any heavier and it won't hold up..."

When Zhuang Rui was sorting through the gold bricks, he checked the quantity. When he had about 100 bricks, he zipped up the box and tried to lift it. He couldn't lift it with one hand at all.

One gold brick weighs about one kilogram, so 100 bricks would weigh 100 kilograms, which is already the limit of the box's load-bearing capacity. If any more were placed in it, the canvas would probably be torn to shreds.

"What the hell is so great about this gold...?"

Zhuang Rui sat down on the box with a bit of helplessness. He was a little excited when he first saw the gold, but now he felt it was inconvenient. This broken stuff can't be eaten or drunk, and it's inconvenient to carry around. Why is it so valuable?

It must have been so difficult for people in ancient times. They had to carry a bag of metal with them every day when they went out. It's so much more convenient now, where you can just write a check and get millions or tens of millions.

"Stop staring at me, let's move..."

Seeing that Peng Fei and Zhou Rui were waiting for him to make a decision, Zhuang Rui stood up, pulled out the handle of the box, and pulled it out of the cave. Fortunately, the floor of the cave was relatively flat; otherwise, it would have been exhausting for these people to lift it out.

Having suffered two losses in a row, Liu Chuan refused to go into the cave again. He stayed by the helicopter and, together with Hao Long, carried the boxes containing the gold that Zhuang Rui and the

others had packed onto the helicopter. However, after carrying only a dozen or so canvas boxes, he was too tired to lift his arms.

Although it was just a simple transfer from the ground to the helicopter, at a height of only about one meter, this single box weighed a whopping two hundred kilograms. Even Hao Long, let alone Liu Chuan, would find it difficult to handle.

Zhuang Rui, pulling a box of gold, walked to the helicopter and said to Hao Long, "Brother Hao, you and Da Chuan go inside and pack it up, Peng Fei and I will carry it..."

"Boss, I'm fine. Let Da Chuan go in. I can hold on for a while longer..."

"Yeah, Brother Zhuang, your left shoulder injury hasn't healed yet, you can't put weight on it. You guys go pack the boxes, I can carry them myself..." Peng Fei also came over. This kid's strength was terrifying; he bent down and lifted the 200-pound boxes, placing them directly on the helicopter.

With Peng Fei as their professional porter, Liu Chuan and Hao Long were able to enter the cave, which significantly sped up the packing process. However, they soon ran out of boxes.

Zhuang Rui and his group only bought a total of fifty-odd boxes, and so far they have only moved about six tons of gold. There are still six large boxes of gold in the cave, but two of the boxes contain some jewelry and jade.

Finally, having no other choice, they had to empty the boxes of gold from the cabin into the cargo hold of the helicopter, which allowed them to remove all the gold from the cave.

"I'm going to die, I'm going to die, you blockhead, don't call me for something like this again..."

After handling the gold, Liu Chuan lay sprawled out on the hillside. The packing crew had it tough too; they had to pick up the gold and put it in the boxes. Among the group, Liu Chuan was the weakest and was now almost completely exhausted.

"You deserve it, didn't you? You used too much force in bed, didn't you?"

"Get out of my way..."

Liu Chuan didn't even have the energy to argue anymore, but he was a little puzzled as to when Zhuang Rui's health had improved so much.

Zhuang Rui smiled and walked past him. There were still two large boxes of jewelry inside the cave that hadn't been emptied. He and Peng Fei and the others emptied all the jewelry into their backpacks before they were finally done.

However, during the process of dealing in jewelry, Zhuang Rui was puzzled. Judging from the carving techniques, style, and jade quality of these jewelry pieces, very few were jadeite. Most of them were nephrite from China, and some even contained bloodstone and agate. They were also quite old.

In addition, there were some wine cups made of gold and Hetian jade. Zhuang Rui even saw an ancient jade with six different colors of patina. Such a thing is rare even in China.

Although time was short and he hadn't had a chance to examine them closely, Zhuang Rui wondered, "Could these things have been stolen from China and brought to Myanmar by the Japanese?"

Actually, Zhuang Rui misunderstood. You should know that in Myanmar a hundred or two hundred years ago, jade was not valued at all. The local emperors of Myanmar never took these things seriously. Instead, they admired Chinese jade, gold and silver ornaments.

Since the Tang and Song dynasties, Burma, as a small and undeveloped country, has always been a vassal state of China. Every year, it had to send letters of credence and tribute to the superior country. As the suzerain state, China naturally wanted to show off its grandeur, and the gifts it gave back to the various vassal states of Burma were often many times more than their tribute.

During the Ming Dynasty, many nomadic tribes frequently visited the Celestial Empire, hoping to extract benefits from this supposedly superior nation.

The Burmese royal family naturally received many gifts from the Celestial Empire, but these gifts ended up here after Yangon and Mandalay were captured by the Japanese.

Zhuang Rui only learned about the origin of these things later when he showed a white jade cup to someone else, but that's another story.

The group ate something to replenish their energy, and it was almost 3 p.m. They had spent more than five hours moving the gold.

"Peng Fei, seal the entrance again..."

Zhuang Rui carefully searched the cave, leaving not a single pearl behind, and then instructed Peng Fei to blow up the cave entrance.

The blasting used a lot of explosives, and the entrance to the cave was completely destroyed. Although the traces of the blast are visible, clearing the way to enter the cave will not be an easy task.

After resting for another half hour, Peng Fei piloted the helicopter and flew towards the location of Hu Rong's mine.

Zhuang Rui clearly remembered that it took him and Peng Fei more than four hours to get from the edge of the forest to this place, but this time it only took them more than 20 minutes to see the mine, even with the flight slowed down.

"Brother, you...you really have some nerve, wow, you even managed to send a helicopter like this..."

After the helicopter came to a stop at the camp at the foot of the mountain, Hu Rong immediately came up to greet it, circled the helicopter, and looked on with envy. He often took helicopters to and from Hpakant, and had been worn out by the old and dilapidated helicopters in Myanmar.

"Brother Hu, are the people you brought reliable?"

After getting off the helicopter, Zhuang Rui immediately asked, "While I was in the helicopter, I saw that there were people with submachine guns guarding the area around the foot of the mountain, especially around the camp."

"Don't worry, I brought eighty people with me this time, all from my Hu family. They usually stay in Chinatown, so they're absolutely reliable..."

Upon hearing Zhuang Rui's words, Hu Rong's face turned serious. The people he brought this time, even if they weren't surnamed Hu, were still closely related to the Hu family. In the parlance of decades ago in China, they were considered to have "red and righteous roots."

"Okay, I have to rush back to China. Brother Hu, did you bring a scale? Weigh this gold brick so we can have someone load it onto the truck..." Zhuang Rui took a gold diamond out of his pocket and handed it to Hu Rong.

Hu Rong, who was used to handling gold, held it up to the sunlight to examine it, then bit it and smiled, saying, "Not bad, this gold is of very high quality; it can fetch a good price..."

Hu Rong waved his hand and asked someone to bring over an electronic scale. He weighed the gold on it, and the weight was exactly 1,000 grams. He weighed several more pieces, and the error for each piece was no more than two or three grams.

"Brother, how much did you bring in total?" Hu Rong looked at Zhuang Rui with some curiosity. He had no doubt that the gold came from Myanmar.

Zhuang Rui smiled, led Hu Rong to the helicopter, opened the cabin door, pointed to the dozens of canvas boxes, and said, "These boxes are all filled with..."

"Is it all...gold of the same purity as this?"

Hu Rong swallowed hard. Although he had seen many big events, he knew that only the vault custodians of large banks had the chance to see tons of gold at once.

"Yes, seven tons in total, one hundred kilograms in each box. Brother Hu, could you bring that truck over and have a few trustworthy people verify it before loading it onto the truck?"

Zhuang Rui had seen an armored truck parked in the camp earlier, presumably for Hu Rong to transport gold.

"well!"

Hu Rong rubbed his hands together, called over a dozen people to make arrangements, and backed the armored truck next to the helicopter door. Zhou Rui, Peng Fei, and others were on the helicopter and began the handover.

These gold pieces were all remelted and shaped using molds. They were almost identical in weight and volume, each weighing one kilogram. People on both sides were counting them, and in no time they had moved more than a ton.

Hu Rong pulled Zhuang Rui to a wooden hut in the camp and sat him down. He took out two agreements and placed them in front of Zhuang Rui, saying, "Brother, the price of gold in Myanmar is a bit high, so I'll give you 130 RMB per gram. If you bring in two tons of gold from my mine, I'll give you a 30% share..."

Zhuang Rui was taken aback by Hu Rong's words. They had previously agreed that he would buy 20% of Hu Rong's shares for 20 million euros, while the value of 2 tons of gold was about 26 million euros. If what Hu Rong said now was true, then he would be getting a good deal.

"Brother, I have investments in other industries and my funds are a bit tight. So I'm taking advantage of you on this shareholding. But don't worry, I'll handle the other three tons of gold you want to sell and the two tons I need to ship back to China for you perfectly. You don't need to worry about anything. What do you think?"

When Hu Rong saw that Zhuang Rui didn't speak, he thought that Zhuang Rui disagreed, so he quickly explained that the jade mine had not yet shown any signs of being a rich deposit, which meant that the more Zhuang Rui invested, the more he might lose in the future.

"Brother Hu, okay, we'll do it your way..."

Zhuang Rui hesitated for a moment, then nodded heavily after a couple of minutes, agreeing, though inwardly he was overjoyed: "Even if you sold me the entire mine's shares, I'd take it!"

#### Chapter 516 Gift

The contract was drafted by Hu Rong. After changing a few numbers, Zhuang Rui signed his name, and two copies were made, thus completing the transaction.

Although this contract wasn't very formal, Zhuang Rui wasn't afraid that Hu Rong might have any bad intentions. The reason he brought a helicopter to make the deal with him today was partly to intimidate him, and Hu Rong was well aware of that.

In this transaction, Zhuang Rui found a jade mine that would lay golden eggs, while Hu Rong relieved the pressure of the mine not producing jade. With the batch of gold that Zhuang Rui invested, even if he couldn't find a vein, he wouldn't have too much financial pressure if he could sustain the mine for another year or two.

In Hu Rong's view, this move is a win-win situation, of course, it is based on helping Zhuang Rui launder money.

In addition to the two tons of gold used to purchase the shares, Hu Rong also gave Zhuang Rui a receipt indicating that he had received another five tons of gold.

This is just a formality. If Hu Rong wants to pocket this gold, not only is a receipt useless, but even a formal contract signed by the two of them is also useless. Conversely, whether or not a receipt is issued is irrelevant.

"Brother, today is the Little New Year. Why don't you come back to our Chinatown to celebrate the Little New Year before you leave?"

After the matter was settled, Hu Rong felt a great weight lifted off his shoulders. With this batch of gold, those who were laughing at him and those who were planning to take advantage of the situation would have to give up their ideas.

"No, Brother Hu, I only have 24 hours of access to this helicopter. I have to rush back soon. You absolutely must come to my engagement party after the New Year..."

Zhuang Rui waved his hand with a smile, thinking to himself that when he got home, his mother would probably give him a dressing down, and another political and ideological education lesson would definitely be inevitable.

"Don't worry, Brother Zhuang, I'll go even if you don't invite me. By the way, I also prepared a gift for your visit this time..."

Hu Rong walked to the door of the wooden house, waved to someone outside, and a young man carrying a large bundle that appeared to be wrapped in a bed sheet walked into the house.  
(69shux.com)

"Brother, give one of these tiger skins to Grandpa Ouyang, and give the other one to your aunt. It's cold in Beijing, and covering yourself with this in winter is more useful than a heated kang bed..."

Upon opening the package, two whole tiger skins were revealed. Hu Rong spread them out in the room, and they took up more than half of the room's space. Both tiger skins were over two meters long and more than one meter wide, with a large "king" character on their foreheads, which greatly impacted Zhuang Rui's visual senses.

Both tiger skins were tanned very well. Zhuang Rui touched them and found that the tiger skins were very thick and the fur was particularly soft. The black and yellow stripes of the fur were exceptionally bright. If you put it on a chair, it would look like a real tiger poised to pounce.

"Brother Hu, how did you kill that tiger?"

Zhuang Rui rubbed his hands on the tiger skin. He was really curious because after looking at it for a long time, he couldn't find any scars or bullet holes on the tiger skin. Could it really be that Wu Song killed the tiger with his fists?

"Hehe, these were taken by my grandfather when he was young. He was a sharpshooter; he could shoot bullets into people's heads through their eyes. These two are the most intact ones..."

Hu Rong had also hunted tigers before, but his skills were not as good. Since he was giving them away, he chose these two tiger skins that were in the best condition.

"Brother Hu, this...this is way too valuable, isn't it?"

Zhuang Rui knew the price of tiger skins. In China, a complete tiger skin could be sold for over a million yuan. These two tiger skins, which didn't even have a single bullet hole in them, were each worth at least two million yuan. If he encountered a nouveau riche like Fatty Ma, it would be normal for him to be ripped off for three to five million yuan.

"It's nothing, just take it. Besides, it's a gift for the elderly, don't try to use money as an excuse..."

Hu Rong waved his hand and continued, "I know that the sale of tiger skins is strictly prohibited in China. Take one back for your aunt to use, and I'll bring the other one through customs..."

Hu Rong had thought things through carefully. If the tiger skin were smuggled into China, Old Master Ouyang would likely not accept it to avoid suspicion. Therefore, he had Zhuang Rui take one back first, so it wouldn't be so conspicuous for his own family. He would bring the one for Old Master Ouyang into China through normal procedures, thus avoiding any gossip.

"Alright, then I'll thank Brother Hu on behalf of my mother and grandfather..."

Zhuang Rui didn't mince words. Such a fine tiger skin is truly a rare find in China. If it weren't for the fact that it was in Myanmar, these tigers would be shot a dozen times over if they were caught in China.

"I really do have the potential to be a smuggler..."

Last time he brought tiger bones and tiger penis when he left the country, but this time he upgraded and brought a tiger skin. If it weren't for the fact that he was smuggling himself into Myanmar, Zhuang Rui would have been willing to report it to the customs, so as not to worry about bringing it on the plane.

Although I was a little uneasy, I still had to pack everything. I brought several large bags of jewelry and ornaments, and I didn't mind bringing an extra tiger skin.

After refolding the tiger skin, Zhuang Rui hugged it to his chest, intending to put it in a backpack later. The other tiger skin was put away by the young man.

"Brother, everything's been counted. It's a total of seven tons of gold, and it should be more than that..."

At this moment, a middle-aged man in his thirties knocked on the door and came in. He nodded to Zhuang Rui first. He was Hu Rong's second younger brother and knew Zhuang Rui. He was the one who was in charge of checking the gold just now.

"Brother Hu, Second Brother, I'll take my leave now. See you after the New Year..."

Zhuang Rui checked the time; it was already past 5 p.m., and he figured it would be 7 or 8 p.m. before he could get back to China.

Hu Rong didn't try to keep Zhuang Rui any longer, saying, "Alright, be careful on the road. That batch of gold we're selling will probably take a little longer. But I'll bring the other two tons to China for you after the New Year. You have a jewelry store, right? We can use the jewelry store's name to buy gold from Myanmar for your own use..."

Zhuang Rui nodded, naturally admiring Hu Rong from the bottom of his heart. Having spent so much time in society, Hu Rong's experience was truly different; with just a casual remark, he had cleaned up all of Zhuang Rui's gold.

"By the way, Brother Hu, about what I mentioned earlier about setting up more scouting sites along the mountain, could you arrange that after the New Year? This mountain is so big, I don't believe there aren't any mineral veins..."

After stepping out of the wooden house, Zhuang Rui looked at the mountains in front of him and stopped. He was now one of the major shareholders of this jade mine, so it was only natural for him to offer his suggestions.

"We've actually opened quite a few exploration sites in the past six months, but no mineral veins have been found yet. I'll make arrangements after the New Year..."

Hu Rong also leaned towards the idea that this jade mine was a rich mine. However, he had explored many locations before but had not found any veins. So he used the most laborious method: digging down from the mountaintop. Although it was laborious and time-consuming, once a vein was found, all the investment could be recovered.

"Brother Hu, you could try drilling some scouting points along the railcar route. As the saying goes, 'the darkest place is under the lamp,' perhaps there's a mineral vein in the area you walk through every day..."

Zhuang Rui smiled and walked to the helicopter, while Hu Rong stood there stunned, recalling Zhuang Rui's words, "I seem to have really overlooked the section of the mountain with the railcar."

It wasn't until the sound of the helicopter's rotors spinning that Hu Rong snapped out of his daze. He waved repeatedly at the helicopter that had already taken off, but he had already made up his mind.

Taking advantage of the fact that the miners are on holiday during the Spring Festival and do not need to take the railcar to and from the mine, Hu Rong decided to arrange for people to drive several exploratory tunnels along the railcar route in the next few days to see if there are any mineral veins.

Leaving aside Hu Rong's plans to explore for mineral veins, after Zhuang Rui and his group crossed the border by helicopter and arrived at the place where the helicopter had left, it was already completely dark. Night had enveloped the earth, making it exceptionally quiet.

Zhuang Rui first had Peng Fei and the others take several backpacks containing jewelry boxes and tiger skins to the car they had come in. Then he sat alone at the helicopter door, took out his phone, and made a call.

"Brother Lei, the three tons of gold are all in the cabin. Let's get someone to come and take them over..."

"Yes, someone will be here soon. Just hand the things over to them and you don't need to worry about it..."

Ouyang Lei paused for a moment on the phone, then continued, "A transport plane is coming to Beijing tonight. I'll give you guys a ride on the way..."

"Hehe, thanks, Brother Lei..."

Zhuang Rui chuckled when he heard the call had ended. He knew Ouyang Jun was looking out for him, saving him the risk of taking the jewelry and tiger skin on the plane.

About twenty minutes later, two headlights pierced the darkness and shone directly on the helicopter. Two people got out of the car. In addition to the captain who was handed over to Zhuang Rui, there was also a soldier with the rank of senior colonel.

After handing the helicopter over to the captain, Zhuang Rui got into his own container truck and followed the colonel's vehicle to a military airport. The group then squeezed into the cargo hold of the transport plane, which was piled high with goods. As for the container truck that Peng Fei had rented at a high price, someone naturally took it back.

Although it wasn't midnight when they got back to Beijing, meaning the Lunar New Year wasn't over yet, Zhuang Rui and the others were already exhausted, like dead dogs, and went back to their rooms to sleep.

"Mom, what time is it? You woke me up..."

Zhuang Rui glanced at the alarm clock on the bedside table. It was only a little past 9 a.m., and he thought his mother was coming to give him a lesson. He quickly shrank his head further under the covers. Wasn't there Liu Chuan, his godson? Why was she coming to him first?

"You child, you're so old and still lying in bed! Someone's looking for you outside, get up now..."

Ouyang Wan patted Zhuang Rui's head in an annoyed tone, then said, "Xiao Rui, you're about to get engaged, you can't be flirting with other women outside, Mom won't allow it..."

Chapter 517 The Persuader

"Mom, what are you talking about? When did I ever cheat on you with other women?"

Zhuang Rui peeked out from his warm bed, puzzled. He hadn't had any contact with any other women besides Qin Xuanbing, excluding his mother and niece, of course.

"That's good, otherwise Mom wouldn't have let you off the hook. Get up quickly, someone's waiting for you outside..."

Ouyang Wan rubbed her son's head, stood up and walked out of the room. She believed what her son said, but these days it's not uncommon for women to pursue men.

Although the girl kept calling him "Teacher Zhuang," Ouyang Wan could sense that the girl seemed to have other intentions.

Besides this girl, the girl she met at the airport when she came to Beijing last time also seemed to have some feelings for her son. Ouyang Wan herself had experienced her father interfering in her marriage, so she didn't want to get involved in Zhuang Rui's marriage. However, if Zhuang Rui was fickle, she couldn't ignore it.

"Who's going to ruin my reputation?"

Seeing his mother leave the room, Zhuang Rui was still completely confused. "Could it be Miao Feifei?"

Thinking of this fierce woman, Zhuang Rui felt a chill run down his spine. Although he felt that he and Miao Feifei were just buddies, he had indeed taken advantage of the girl when he got drunk in Shanghai and his hands and feet wouldn't obey him. He had kissed her and touched her breasts.

So for the past few months, apart from cooperating with Miao Feifei to participate in a black market auction, Zhuang Rui has avoided other things as much as possible, because with his wedding date approaching, he really doesn't know how to face Officer Miao.

"Damn it, I didn't rape anyone's wife or daughter, what am I afraid of..."

After lingering in bed for a while, Zhuang Ruixiong got up with a haughty air, got dressed, washed up, and then went to the Central Court.

The front yard of this house was where Zhang Ma and Li Sao lived. Zhuang Rui originally wanted Peng Fei to choose a suite in the middle courtyard, but the boy felt uncomfortable and ended up staying in the front yard. However, there was also a suite with a bathroom in the front yard, which was given to Peng Fei.

Guests are usually received in the living room of the central courtyard, which is a converted three-room house. It is very spacious and the furniture inside is antique style.

Furthermore, Zhuang Rui purchased a considerable number of counterfeit ceramics and calligraphy and painting treasures from Liulichang and Panjiayuan, displaying them on the antique shelves in the hall. This created a scholarly atmosphere, which was enough to fool laymen like Liu Chuan and Fatty Ma.

"Oh my, what a rare guest... a rare guest, Teacher Jin, what brings you here today?"

Zhuang Rui stepped into the living room of the central courtyard and breathed a sigh of relief upon seeing the two people inside. It turned out that the two were Jin Pangzi, a famous connoisseur of calligraphy and painting in Beijing, and Liu Jia, a popular TV host from Beijing.

"Brother Zhuang, I've been meaning to come visit you for a while, but I haven't had the time. Now that the New Year is almost here, I have some free time, but today I've been conscripted to be your persuader..."

Fatty Ma was wearing a festive bright yellow cotton jacket with two openings, and with his chubby round face, he really gave people the feeling that the New Year was just around the corner.

"A lobbyist?"

Zhuang Rui frowned slightly and focused his gaze on Liu, the host.

Today, Liu Jia's attire was completely different from the bulky look she wore during the exam. On the sofa next to her was a fur coat, which she had obviously taken off after entering the room.

At this moment, Liu Jia was wearing a tight-fitting V-neck black sweater. Although the outside temperature was several degrees below zero, her chest still revealed two patches of fair skin. She was also wearing a pair of black tight pants, which perfectly highlighted her graceful figure. Her high breasts, round buttocks, and long legs were so alluring.

Liu Jia is clearly a woman who knows how to showcase her strengths. Her all-black attire makes her appear elegant and mysterious, yet also possesses a wildness that unconsciously stirs within men a desire to explore beneath that black hue.

When Zhuang Rui saw Liu Jia's outfit, he was slightly taken aback. Not to mention him, even Jin Pangzi, a middle-aged man in his forties, avoided looking at the beautiful host with a somewhat wandering gaze. It seems that the saying that some celebrities can appeal to everyone from fifteen to eighty years old is quite applicable to Liu Jia.

When Liu Jia saw Zhuang Rui's gaze, she felt a little smug. Since her debut, Zhuang Rui was the first person to refuse when she invited others to her show, which made Liu Jia very resentful. So, after finding Fatty Jin, she begged and pleaded with him to take her to invite Zhuang Rui.

After arriving at Zhuang Rui's courtyard house, Liu Jia's mind became even more active. She knew that a house like this was something that money couldn't buy these days, which further strengthened her resolve to win Zhuang Rui over.

As the saying goes, it's easy for a man to pursue a woman, but easy for a woman to pursue a man. Liu Jia just didn't believe that there were men in this world who were indifferent to women.

"Cough cough..."

Fatty Jin coughed twice to draw Zhuang Rui's attention, then said, "Brother Zhuang, I'm here today as a lobbyist. Miss Liu has been transferred to CCTV and is organizing a Spring Festival treasure appraisal event. How about you join the guest panel? I'm the group leader..."

"Teacher Jin, if it were any other time, I would have agreed, but I really don't have time during the Spring Festival. I just got back from abroad yesterday, and I have to leave Beijing again on the second day of the Lunar New Year. I really don't have the time. It's not that I'm trying to refuse you..."

Zhuang Rui smiled wryly. Fatty Jin was a very generous person and had quite a bit of influence in the antique circle. Just as Zhuang Rui said, if it were any other time, he would have agreed to this. It was just a TV appraisal show, and it wasn't like he had participated for the first time.

"Brother, this year CCTV is promoting folk treasure appraisal programs as the main program for the Spring Festival. It will play a very positive role in letting the Chinese people understand collecting and promoting traditional culture. You can't let us down..."

It's unclear what benefits Liu Jia promised Fatty Jin, but when Fatty Jin heard Zhuang Rui refuse, he immediately accused him of something serious. Judging from his expression, if Zhuang Rui didn't agree, it would mean he wasn't cooperating with the organization's work.

"Could these two be having an affair?" After hearing Fatty Jin's words, Zhuang Rui's eyes darted between Fatty Jin and Liu Jia a few times.

There was no affair between the two of them... not really. It's not that Liu Jia was particularly aloof, it's just that she didn't think much of Fatty Jin. Even if a leading lady from Beijing TV wanted to find someone to be her lover, it had to be a good match of wealth and beauty.

However, Liu Jia really put in some effort to persuade Fatty Jin. Cultured people have always been fond of romance, and countless stories about it have been passed down through the ages. Haven't you seen that crosstalk performer also dabbling in the world of romance? It's just that Fatty Jin was unlucky and happened to be caught up in the crackdown on prostitution.

Fatty Jin is into calligraphy and painting, and considers himself a romantic... Of course, he's only romantic; the word "dashing" doesn't apply to him at all.

After his divorce a few years ago, Fatty Jin even called himself the most eligible bachelor in Beijing's antique world, and many of his romantic affairs have been reported.

Liu Jia introduced a female college student who had just been assigned to the Beijing TV station to Jin. Coincidentally, the college student was a graduate in Classical Chinese, and she and Fatty Jin had a lot in common. One was successful in his career and had some assets, while the other was young and beautiful, which suited his tastes.

After several encounters, Fatty Jin and the college student established a purely platonic friendship. Well, it was perfectly innocent in public, but only the two of them knew what happened in private. In any case, Fatty Jin's Audi had become the college student's personal car for commuting to and from get off work.

What? Too big an age gap? These days, female celebrities can have boyfriends who are twenty or thirty years older than them. Even the talented Jin and the college student are only twenty years apart. Haven't you heard of the saying that love knows no borders or age?

As the saying goes, "He who takes a bribe is bound to be grateful," and when Fatty Jin and the college students were doing morning exercises and radio calisthenics, they often thought of the great host Liu's kindness. Of course, they also often fantasized about the person beneath them being the beautiful host in front of them.

So when Liu Jia came to him for help, even though Fatty Jin knew Zhuang Rui had a powerful background, he still gritted his teeth and came to act as an intermediary.

"Hey bro, I'm just trying to be helpful. Once you're on this show, your expert title is practically guaranteed. It'll be easier for you to find bargains on Taobao in the future, won't it?"

Just now he was reasoning with him, but now he's trying to entice him with benefits. However, what Fatty Jin said made Zhuang Rui both laugh and cry. This expert can easily detect leaks? He probably would have quoted 500 to you, but if he sees that you're an expert and want to buy, he can immediately quote you 5000.

Furthermore, Zhuang Rui is no longer very enthusiastic about leak detection. He went to Panjiayuan several times before, but didn't find anything good, only fakes and counterfeit goods.

The swindlers there were far more skilled at cheating and deceiving than Da Xiong and his accomplice in their old duo in Pengcheng. Even Zhuang Rui once took a fancy to a fan by Tang Bohu, and if he hadn't glanced at it during the transaction, he would have been tricked.

"Teacher Jin, I really don't have time during the Spring Festival. Let's skip it this time. There are so many experts in Beijing. One more or one less won't make a difference. I, Zhuang Rui, will remember your kindness, okay?"

Zhuang Rui just shook his head. No matter how nicely you speak, I'm just too busy.

Seeing that even Jin Pangzi couldn't handle Zhuang Rui, Liu Jia spoke up, "Teacher Zhuang, although this program will air from the first day of the Lunar New Year to the eighth, it's pre-recorded. Recording will begin tomorrow and end on the 28th, and each day will only be half a day, so it won't affect your New Year's plans at all..."

As Liu Jia spoke, she shifted her body and sat down on the sofa directly opposite Zhuang Rui, clasping her hands together in front of her chest and bowing to him.

Due to the pressure from the arm, Liu Jia's already exceptionally full breasts instantly developed a deep cleavage, which was presented to Zhuang Rui's eyes.

Chapter 518 Awkwardness

Zhuang Rui wasn't blind; he immediately noticed Liu Jia's alluring gestures. Moreover, the two sofas weren't far apart, and he could even smell a faint feminine fragrance.

To be honest, Zhuang Rui's morning erection had just subsided when he saw this scene, and he was really overwhelmed. He felt a surge of heat in his lower abdomen, and if he hadn't been sitting on the sofa, he probably would have gotten an erection.

"This woman... she really will stop at nothing..."

Zhuang Rui shook his head slightly in his heart. During his previous trip to Jinan, he had some goodwill towards Liu Jia, after all, she had once helped him out of a predicament. But now, that goodwill had completely disappeared.

Zhuang Rui was taught from a young age that if you want others to respect you, you must first respect yourself. He has never had a good impression of people who do not respect themselves.

As for women, Liu Jia is not bad, but she is far inferior to Qin Xuanbing. Then look at the chubby Jin next to her, whose face is glowing.

The thought that Fatty Jin might have once used his fat to squeeze Liu Jia's fair body made Zhuang Rui feel even more nauseous.

If he really wanted women, those Russian girls in Baifeng Villa would be a hundred times cleaner than the beautiful female host in front of him.

Now Zhuang Rui understood why Ouyang Jun could act so nonchalantly around Bai Feng. It turned out that Ouyang Jun was used to women throwing themselves at him, but he was just picky and rarely went after such women.

In fact, it's an open secret in the entertainment industry that people use their bodies as capital to get roles or opportunities to rise to the top. Although Liu Jia is more appropriately categorized as a news media personality, it's all pretty much the same. The position of the top female host at Beijing TV requires a combination of strengths.

Putting everything else aside, Ouyang Jun's club is frequented by the wealthy and powerful, attracting many second- and third-tier celebrities seeking opportunities. If you have money, keeping a minor celebrity there is easy; of course, platonic friendships are not permitted within the club.

"I'm sorry, Ms. Liu, I have a lot of things to take care of these past few days, I really haven't had the time..."

Actually, if there were only three days for filming, and all of them were in the morning, Zhuang Rui would have had the time. However, Liu Jia's actions annoyed him, so he immediately refused.

As Zhuang Rui spoke, he picked up the teacup in front of him, which Li Sao had poured for them earlier. After picking up the covered bowl, Zhuang Rui opened the lid but did not bring it to his lips, his eyes fixed on Liu Jia and Fatty Jin.

"Teacher Zhuang..."

"Brother Zhuang, how about you give me this much face?"

Before Liu Jia could speak again, she was interrupted by Fatty Jin.

Ancient Chinese etiquette was numerous and complex. One such etiquette was tea drinking. In a host's home, after serving tea to guests, the host, no matter how thirsty, could not pick up the tea in front of them to drink, because that would signify that the guest was being seen off. This is the so-called "serving tea to see guests off".

In fact, there are many aspects of traditional culture that are worth promoting. For example, serving tea to guests is much more subtle than directly kicking them out, and it saves face for the other party. Another example is the marriage system in Myanmar, which is also worth studying.

Although in modern times, no one follows the custom of serving tea to guests anymore, even among cultured people, this is no longer observed, but Zhuang Rui's actions just now made it very clear.

Although Liu Jia is a talented woman with a big chest and a brain, she doesn't know much about etiquette. However, Fatty Jin understood what Zhuang Rui wanted to express, so he had really swallowed his pride to say those words to Zhuang Rui.

"Teacher Jin, it's not that I don't want to give it to you..."

"Brother Zhuang, there's a police officer outside looking for you..."

Before Zhuang Rui could finish speaking, the intercom system installed at the living room door suddenly rang, and Peng Fei's voice came from inside.

"Officer? Could it be that something happened to me in Myanmar?"

Zhuang Rui was stunned for a moment, and his first thought was this.

However, Zhuang Rui quickly dismissed the idea. His actions in Myanmar had brought the country three tons of gold. Even if something happened, Ouyang Lei should have helped him settle it. It wasn't up to the Beijing police to come knocking on his door. With that in mind, Zhuang Rui asked, "Peng Fei, is this officer a man or a woman?"

"Brother Zhuang, it's..."

"Zhuang Rui, it's me, Miao Feifei..."

Well, no need to ask anymore. Hearing Miss Miao's voice coming from the walkie-talkie, Zhuang Rui's face immediately fell. What's going on today? He hasn't even gotten rid of this annoying person in front of him, and now another one he can't afford to offend has arrived outside.

"Hehe, it's Officer Miao! Please come in, Peng Fei. Please lead Officer Miao to the living room..."

Zhuang Rui forced a smile. He didn't need a mirror to know how fake his smile looked, but Miao Feifei had already come knocking on his door. He couldn't just hide from her, could he? If this fierce woman really made a scene, he'd be in big trouble.

Miao Feifei's straightforward personality actually suited Zhuang Rui's temperament quite well. However, due to the drunken incident in Zhonghai, Zhuang Rui had always felt a little embarrassed to face Miao Feifei. He wasn't stupid; he could naturally sense that Miao Feifei seemed to have some feelings for him.

Zhuang Rui once read a book that said men and women could be purely platonic friends. Zhuang Rui used to think so too, but now he couldn't agree anymore. If a man and a woman interacted too much, it was hard to guarantee that something wouldn't happen. Perhaps only male gay men and female lesbians could be true friends in the real sense.

"Zhuang Rui, what have you been up to lately? I haven't seen you anywhere, and now I have to trouble this officer to come to your door..."

As Miao Feifei spoke, her figure appeared at the living room doorway, and a gust of cold wind blew into the room as the curtain was lifted.

"Oh no, this is bad..."

Zhuang Rui suddenly remembered that when he took Miao Feifei to the black market auction last time, Fatty Jin was also there. If the two of them met, wouldn't the whole thing be exposed?

"You are... Miss Miao from last time, right?"

Zhuang Rui couldn't salvage the situation now, because Fatty Jin had already recognized the policewoman in uniform as the girl who had been with Zhuang Rui last time, and his gaze became somewhat strange.

"Um, Ms. Jin, let me introduce you. This is Officer Miao Feifei. She works in internal affairs and doesn't handle cases. She just wanted to come with me to see what was going on last time..."

After Zhuang Rui got up and invited Miao Feifei to sit down, he turned around and introduced the place to Fatty Jin. You see, it's a big taboo for people in the antique business to get involved with the Six Doors. If word gets out, it will be very difficult to find any items in the future.

"Hehe, bro, you're really something..."

Fatty Jin laughed and punched Zhuang Rui, who was sitting next to him, with an ambiguous look on his face.

Because Miao Feifei's appearance is too feminine. Although she is wearing a police uniform and looks very heroic, it cannot hide her feminine charm and girlish innocence.

Fatty Jin hadn't thought about the case; instead, he was envious of Zhuang Rui's good fortune with women. He had seen Liu Jia's almost seductive behavior earlier and felt a little jealous. This beautiful policewoman was even better than Liu Jia.

"Officer Miao, you know Teacher Jin, this is Liu Jia, the host from CCTV, from Beijing TV... no, now I should say CCTV. Please introduce yourselves..."

When Zhuang Rui saw Miao Feifei enter, his eyes kept glancing at Liu Jia. Coupled with Jin Pangzi's ambiguous expression, the room became somewhat awkward. He quickly introduced Liu Jia to Miao Feifei.

"Well, I'm fine. I took the day off to come see you. I heard you're getting engaged soon, right? Isn't your fiancée Miss Qin from Hong Kong?"

After nodding to Liu Jia, Miao Feifei turned her gaze to Zhuang Rui. Even Fatty Jin could hear the resentment in her voice, and it was also subtly directed at Liu Jia who was present.

When Zhuang Rui was working in Zhonghai, Qin Xuanbing and Lei Lei visited him, and Zhuang Rui later mentioned it to Miao Feifei, so Officer Miao knew about this matter.

"Yes, I was planning to let you know, but I went to Myanmar a while ago and just got back..."

"Teacher Zhuang, you see, I've already guaranteed this to the director about getting on the show..."

Before Zhuang Rui could finish speaking, Liu Jia put on a pitiful look again. Zhuang Rui could tell that this woman had a tenacious spirit and was the type to never give up until she achieved her goal.

"Okay, I agree. That's settled then, Ms. Jin. Let's get back to each other tomorrow?"

Zhuang Rui was completely exasperated by these two women. Although he verbally agreed to Liu Jia's request, his eyes were fixed on Fatty Jin, his meaning clear: "Brother, you'd better take the woman you brought away quickly."

"Alright, Brother Zhuang, we'll take our leave now. Next time I, Old Jin, come visit, you'd better bring out some real treasures to broaden my horizons..."

It wasn't just tea that Zhuang Rui suggested the guests leave; he even told them to see him off. Although Fatty Jin wanted to watch the two women's antics, he still stood up to say goodbye, and also helped the host, Liu, along with him.

At this point, Fatty Jin was also getting annoyed. It was obvious that Zhuang Rui wasn't buying into his mature woman act, so he shouldn't stay here and try to sow discord.

If we go by Fatty Jin's mindset, even though I'm a bit older, I'm good at taking care of people. Fatty Jin wouldn't mind making a few more female confidantes besides his live-in girlfriend.

"Teacher Zhuang, see you on set tomorrow..."

Liu Jia's cloyingly sweet voice as she left made Miao Feifei, who was sitting in the living room, look very unhappy.

Chapter 519 Mother and Son

"Zhuang Rui, what are you doing exchanging glances with that vixen? Don't you know you're about to get engaged?"

After Zhuang Rui saw Jin Pangzi and Liu Jia out, he had just returned to the living room of the Central Courtyard when he heard Miao Feifei's questioning voice. Her delicate face was sullen and puffed up with anger.

"A vixen? You mean Liu Jia?" Zhuang Rui was taken aback; the metaphor was indeed very apt.

"They were calling each other so affectionately, what did you promise her? And you're going to the film crew? You're not going to shoot one of those adult films, are you?"

Officer Miao is really tough; he dares to say anything. It seems that these students spent a lot of time watching Japanese adult films in their dorm rooms when they were in college.

"What nonsense are you talking about? It's a folk treasure appraisal event that CCTV is hosting during the Spring Festival. Hey, Officer Miao, where did you get upset today? Did you come here to vent your anger?"

Zhuang Rui was bombarded with insults by Fatty Jin and Liu Jia as soon as he got up in the morning, and he was really angry, mainly because of the irritation caused by some inappropriate images for children.

"You... I heard you're getting engaged, so I came to ask if it's true. What's with your attitude? I'm leaving..."

Contrary to her usual behavior, Miao Feifei didn't argue with Zhuang Rui. Instead, she stood up and walked towards the door, which left Zhuang Rui somewhat dumbfounded. Was this still Miss Miao?

As they reached the door, Miao Feifei turned back, wrinkled her nose, and said "fiercely" to Zhuang Rui, "I'm on vacation these few days. Tomorrow I want to go with you to the filming set. I've never seen a TV crew filming before..."

"Go...you can go to Zhongnanhai if you want..."

Seeing that this young lady was about to leave, Zhuang Rui felt relieved, but it seemed... there was still a trace of reluctance.

Zhuang Rui couldn't quite describe his feelings. He was probably happy to see that Miao Feifei hadn't distanced herself from him because of his engagement; he didn't want to lose Miao Feifei, such a straightforward friend.

"Brother Zhou, you're up too? No rush to go back to Pengcheng. Let's stay in Beijing for a few days before heading back. Hmm, we'll talk about it later. Call Da Chuan and the others to the gatehouse; we need to discuss something..."

After seeing Miao Feifei off, Zhuang Rui saw Zhou Rui come out of the house and practice a set of military boxing in the front yard. After giving Zhou Rui a few instructions, Zhuang Rui went back to the backyard and found the backpack containing the tiger skin that he had brought back yesterday.

Besides the tiger skin, Zhuang Rui browsed through the jewelry for a while before leaving the room.

"Mom, I found you a gift, take a look..."

Zhuang Rui carried his backpack back to his mother's room in the middle courtyard. He saw Ouyang Wan watching Nannan and Yaya do their homework, so he quickly went over to her. The items that Hu Rong had given him ended up being played with by Zhuang Rui.

"Uncle, I want a present, I want a present..."

Before Zhuang's mother could answer, the little girl dropped her pen and pounced on Zhuang Rui. She wasn't doing any homework; she was just scribbling on Ya Ya's notebook.

"Okay, okay, we have them all..."

Zhuang Rui took out two chains from his pocket and put them on Ya Ya and Nan Nan's left wrists respectively, saying, "Don't take them off unless necessary, and don't show them to anyone, understand?"

"Okay, did Uncle deliver it...?"

"Thank you, big brother. Could you show it to my brother?"

Ya Ya, wearing the beaded necklace, tilted her head and asked a question.

"Of course you can, but you can't show it to anyone other than your brother..."

Zhuang Rui smiled and ruffled Ya Ya's hair. The beaded necklace he gave the two little girls had six ancient dzi beads on it, and the remaining beads were also polished from a top-grade black jade. Although it looked unremarkable due to its dark appearance, it was an item of immeasurable value.

Zhuang Rui deliberately instructed the two maids not to go out and show off. Although this thing looked like a cheap trinket worth 10 or 8 yuan at a street stall to laymen, if an expert saw it, they might have some bad intentions.

Seeing the two little girls run off excitedly to show off to Peng Fei, Ouyang Wan asked Zhuang Rui, "Xiao Rui, is this thing valuable? Don't let it cause trouble for the children..."

Ouyang Wan knew that her son was now quite wealthy and dealt in antiques and jade, so the things he brought out were probably not bad. However, Ouyang Wan had never seen the old dzi beads before. She just vaguely felt that those black jade beads seemed quite valuable.

Zhuang Rui casually replied, "It's worth a few hundred thousand, I guess. If they don't say anything, no one else would know. Anyway, these things are just for people to wear; they're useless if you keep them at home..."

"What?"

Ouyang Wan was startled by her son's words. She had thought it was worth at most tens of thousands of yuan, but she hadn't expected it to be so valuable. She quickly stood up and said, "You child, you're so insensible. Why would such a big child wear these things? No, we can't let them wear them..."

"Mom, it's okay. Just tell Yaya to leave it at home when she goes to school. That bead is good for her health. Let them carry it with them all the time..." Zhuang Rui pulled his mother aside and opened the backpack.

Even folded up, the tiger skin still bulged and filled the entire backpack. When Zhuang Rui took the tiger skin out of the bag and unfolded it, Ouyang Wan was so shocked that she couldn't speak.

Ouyang Wan grew up in a military compound. Many people may think that the older generation of proletarian revolutionaries were very simple and unpretentious, which is true. However, they also had access to many things that ordinary people could not access.

People in that era could not have imagined things like having telephones and televisions in the 1950s and 60s, or even foreign brands, or movies and books that were considered poisonous weeds of capitalism, during the early stages of the Cultural Revolution.

Ouyang Wan was the same. She had seen a lot of things since she was a girl, and she even played the piano very well from a young age, which cultivated her quiet personality. At that time, her family also received many gifts from foreign friends. However, the tiger skin that Zhuang Rui took out frightened her.

Because Ouyang Gang had injured his leg in his early years, he couldn't be exposed to cold in winter. So Ouyang Wan's mother tried many ways to find a tiger-skin rug to cover Ouyang Gang's injured leg in winter.

When she was little, Ouyang Wan would often put her little hands inside the tiger-skin rug on her father's legs to warm them every winter. She knew how precious this thing was, as her father only had a small piece. She never expected that her son would take out a whole tiger skin.

"Mom, you can use this tiger skin as a blanket tonight. If you don't want to use it, I can have someone make you a tiger skin coat. It's cold in Beijing, and you've never been in good health, so please don't be stingy with it..."

Zhuang Rui walked to the sofa and spread the entire tiger skin on it, making it look like a real tiger.

If Ouyang Wan wanted the tiger-skin coat, Zhuang Rui was actually prepared to have it altered. As for whether it would be a pity to turn this complete tiger skin into a coat, Zhuang Rui didn't even consider it.

Zhuang Rui felt ashamed thinking that his mother had always taken care of him. He would not have said anything about not having money before, but after he became rich, he had not cared for his mother much, except for giving her a few pieces of jewelry. His care for his mother was far less meticulous than that of his sister.

"Xiao Rui, I'm so happy that you're thinking of me. Actually, I'd be content if you just spent more time with me..."

Seeing her son's maturity, Ouyang Wan's eyes welled up with tears. It is said that only when you raise a child do you realize the love of your parents. Her son has really grown up and knows how to care for her.

"Mom, I'm not going anywhere this year. I'll spend the New Year with you and then on the second or third day of the Lunar New Year, we'll go back to Pengcheng together to visit our uncles and aunts..."

Zhuang Rui sat on the sofa and put his arm around his mother's shoulder.

Ouyang Wan's thoughts were somewhat hazy. How long ago was it that her son would lean his head on her shoulder like this when he was tired? In the blink of an eye, more than twenty years had passed, and she had already grown gray hair. She had really gotten old.

"By the way, Xiao Rui, selling tiger skins is illegal. You didn't do anything illegal, did you?"

Ouyang Wan suddenly remembered this matter. She was a teacher and usually paid close attention to social developments.

Not long ago, Ouyang Wan saw a news report about a farmer in Northeast China who urgently needed money and sold his ancestral tiger skin for 10,000 yuan. The person who bought the tiger skin then resold it to another person for 40,000 yuan.

The person who ultimately bought the tiger skin was a smuggler. After acquiring the tiger skin, he contacted a Hong Kong businessman and agreed on a price of 1.5 million RMB. However, the tiger skin was discovered at customs, and all three people, including the farmer, were arrested and sentenced.

Ouyang Wan was afraid that her son would rely on his family's power to do something illegal, which is why she asked that question.

"Mom, don't worry, every penny of your son's money is clean and honest. He hasn't taken advantage of the country at all. This tiger skin was a gift from Xuanbing's relatives in Myanmar. He'll be coming for my engagement after the New Year, and we'll take care of the customs clearance procedures then..."

Seeing his mother's worry, Zhuang Rui quickly explained the origin of the tiger skin. In fact, he hadn't taken advantage of the country at all; the value of those three tons of gold was enough to buy these hundreds of tiger skins.

"That's good. But Xiao Rui, Mom's health is fine, I don't need this. I think you should give it to Grandpa. Your grandpa always talks about how he fought a tiger when he was young, but he forgot to keep the tiger skin..."

Ouyang Wan rubbed the tiger skin for a while before deciding to give it to her father. However, since it was her son's gesture, she wanted his consent.

Zhuang Rui smiled and said, "Mom, when Brother Hu comes to China again, he'll bring another tiger skin. That's the one for Grandpa, so don't worry about it. Just make sure you cover yourself with it tonight..."

Zhuang Rui then guessed Hu Rong's intentions; it turned out that he wanted to personally deliver the tiger skin to his grandfather.

Chapter 520 Commission

"Wood, what's up? I was sleeping soundly, so hurry up and tell me what's wrong. I'm going to catch up on my sleep later. Oh, and ask my godmother to make some chicken soup for lunch, I need to nourish myself..."

Zhuang Rui had barely stepped into the gatehouse when he heard Liu Chuan's complaints. This guy felt he'd been bravely injured yesterday, and was therefore making a lot of unreasonable demands.

"Alright, it's just a tiny cut, putting a band-aid on it would be a waste. If you're sleepy, go back to sleep, we'll split the money here..."

Zhuang Rui glanced outside the door, then closed it tightly. There was only one sofa in the doorman's room, and Liu Chuan had taken up half of it. Zhuang Rui pushed him aside before sitting down himself.

This book was first published on the Taiwanese novel website [twkq.com](http://twkq.com), which is super convenient and provides you with a reading experience without errors or disordered chapters.

"Divide the money?"

Liu Chuan's eyes lit up, but then he thought about how the gold was either left in Myanmar or on the helicopter yesterday, so there was no way he could get any money. He couldn't help but say, "What money? You gave all that gold away, kid. Luckily, I still had a piece in my pocket..."

As Liu Chuan spoke, he proudly pulled a gold brick from his pocket, leaving Zhuang Rui, who was standing next to him, dumbfounded. This guy was really something, having already put one in his pocket.

"Alright, go to sleep, this is none of your business..."

Zhuang Rui gave Liu Chuan a disdainful look. This guy had only made things worse yesterday, and even managed to sneak a piece of gold. Even Zhuang Rui hadn't thought of that. Now that he thought about it, it wouldn't be bad to bring back a few pieces to play with. The bright orange gold was quite pleasing to the eye, as long as he didn't have to move it himself.

"Do you care about my few coins? I'll be the Tibetan Mastiff King soon, Brother Zhou, let's head back to Pengcheng this afternoon..."

Liu Chuan pursed his lips. He was indeed worried about the Tibetan Mastiff kennel. Although Renqing Cuomu in Tibet had been there for the past two months, the days around the Lunar New Year were the time when the female mastiffs would give birth. These unborn pups were Liu Chuan's lifeblood, and he was genuinely uneasy about them.

Zhuang Rui ignored Liu Chuan, that clown, and looked at Zhou Rui, Hao Long, and the others, saying, "Brother Zhou, Brother Hao, and Peng Fei, I'm sorry to have troubled you guys with this trip to Myanmar. I have other uses for that gold, so here's what I'll give you: 1 million RMB each as payment for hiring you this time..."

Zhuang Rui knew that even if he didn't pay them, Peng Fei and the others wouldn't be able to say anything. After all, he was paying them wages, so they should be working for him. Besides, he had obtained the treasure map, so it had little to do with them.

However, if he didn't give them a single cent, Zhuang Rui couldn't guarantee that Hao Long and the others wouldn't feel resentful, after all, it was a sum of gold worth over a billion. So, he lay in bed thinking about it yesterday and decided on the amount of one million per person.

For ordinary people, 1 million RMB is an astronomical figure. Based on the current consumption level and average wages in 2005, the average person only earns 1,500 to 1,600 RMB a month. It would take them 70 or 80 years of hard work without eating or drinking to earn 1 million RMB.

Zhuang Rui gave each of them 1 million, which would require him to spend 3 million RMB. Even hiring a mercenary wouldn't cost that much, so Zhuang Rui's offer was already very generous.

Zhuang Rui currently has over 16 million RMB. After settling the matter of the Myanmar jade mine, he no longer needs large sums of money for expenses, so he has plenty of funds. Giving away a few million to a few people is no problem at all.

As soon as Zhuang Rui said this, the room fell silent. Liu Chuan and Zhou Rui's expressions remained relatively calm, but Peng Fei and Hao Long's breathing suddenly became heavy.

Peng Fei and Hao Long were not unfamiliar with money. Back when they cracked down on smuggling and drug trafficking on the border, the seized cash often reached millions of yuan, not to mention the inestimable value of the drugs. However, one thing to note was that the money wasn't theirs, and they never intended to obtain it through illegal means. 06SH.

However, the 1 million yuan that Zhuang Rui mentioned was not obtained through fraud, deception, theft, or robbery. They could take the money with peace of mind and use it with peace of mind.

There are no saints in this world, and no one dislikes money. Peng Fei and Hao Long had never imagined that they could possess such a huge fortune. For a moment, they were both at a loss, and the room became quiet.

"Zhuang Rui, I don't need this money. The shares you gave me are worth more than this. I'm living a good life now and don't need this money..."

Zhou Rui's calm voice broke the silence in the room. He refused Zhuang Rui's commission. For him, everything he had now was given to him by Zhuang Rui and Liu Chuan. Zhou Rui had no reason to accept the money. If he did, he would despise himself.

"Brother Zhou, this..."

"No need to say anything more, or I'll be disrespecting your brother Zhou. Let's leave it at that. Da Chuan and I will go pack up; we have to catch the train back this afternoon..."

Zhou Rui waved his hand to interrupt Zhuang Rui, pulled Liu Chuan along, and the two left the room. He didn't want to embarrass Peng Fei and Hao Long. He refused the money because he didn't need it, but the two were in different situations. Although Zhou Rui and Peng Fei had a very good relationship, he didn't want to influence his decision.

Given the close relationship between Liu Chuan and Zhuang Rui, it couldn't be measured in money at all. Zhuang Rui hadn't even planned to give it to him in the first place. This kid was already grinning from ear to ear for getting a gold brick.

"Boss, I can't accept this money!"

When Hao Long said this, his throat moved slightly, as if he was swallowing saliva with great effort. However, once the words were out of his mouth, Hao Long felt much more relaxed.

Before Zhuang Rui could speak, Hao Long continued, "Boss Zhuang, the wages you pay us are already quite high considering the cost of living in Beijing. It's more than what the average white-collar worker earns. Going on a mission with you is within my job scope, so I can't take this money..."

Hao Long also had his own considerations. Taking this 1 million RMB could be considered a windfall, but he couldn't guarantee that he would still have such a good mindset to continue working for Zhuang Rui.

As for the outside world, Hao Long didn't know what he could do. He had a feeling that taking this 1 million RMB was not a good thing for him.

Zhuang Rui nodded, turned to Peng Fei, and said, "Peng Fei, what are your plans?"

After hearing Zhuang Rui's words, Peng Fei shrugged and said, "Brother Zhuang, I don't have any grand ambitions. My only concern is my little sister. She's doing very well here, and I don't have any other interests. Too much money is a burden, so I'd better not take it..."

Peng Fei was much more meticulous than Hao Long. He knew that as long as he followed Zhuang Rui, money was not that important. After all, if he needed money, would Zhuang Rui just sit idly by? Once he understood this, Peng Fei became indifferent to the 1 million.

"You brat, isn't getting married and finding a wife your real thought?"

Brother Hao, you're a bit older than me, it's about time you settled down, you can't do without money..."

"Boss, I don't know what to do at home, I just want to keep working here with you..."

Upon hearing Zhuang Rui's words, Hao Long became anxious, thinking that Zhuang Rui didn't want him to continue working.

"Brother Hao, I didn't say you had to leave, but you can't stay single forever while you're working for me, can you?"

Zhuang Rui laughed upon hearing this. He was very satisfied with Hao Long and Peng Fei's reactions. If it were when he was so poor that he only had a few coins left in his pocket, he couldn't guarantee that he could resist such temptation.

"Here's what we'll do, Brother Hao. The New Year is coming soon. Take 200,000 yuan home for the holiday; consider it a gift for your parents. I'll save the other 800,000 yuan for you. If you ever need money in the future, just let me know..."

"Thank you, boss!"

Hao Long nodded heavily in agreement. He would naturally support his parents, and with this 200,000 yuan, he could renovate their house in the countryside and his parents wouldn't have to work so hard anymore. Hao Long had no reason to refuse Zhuang Rui's kindness.

Seeing that Hao Long agreed, Zhuang Rui then said to Peng Fei, "You also get 200,000. Keep the rest with me. You and Zhang Qian can discuss when to hold the wedding. I'll give the remaining 800,000 to Zhang Qian for safekeeping..."

With this matter resolved, Zhuang Rui felt relieved. Although the bonds between people are not maintained by money, lending a helping hand when others are in trouble will surely make Hao Long and Peng Fei treat this mansion as their own home in the future.

In the afternoon, Peng Fei took Zhou Rui and Liu Chuan to school, while Zhuang Rui took a taxi to visit Professor Meng. Although the preliminary exam for graduate school was over, there would still be an interview later, so it would be good to interact more with the professor.

After listening to Professor Meng's lecture and bribing Meng Qiuqian's clever maid with a string of pearl flowers, Zhuang Rui left Professor Meng's house and rushed to Uncle Gu's residence.

It just so happened that Gu Yun was also at his father's house, so Zhuang Rui stayed there for dinner that night. He gave the tiger bones he brought to Gu Yun so that he could use them to make medicinal wine. This kind of wine is very good for the bones and muscles of the elderly.

However, after Gu Yun heard that Zhuang Rui still had a tiger whip, he immediately pulled Zhuang Rui to a secluded place and secretly knocked one out of his hand. If it weren't for the late hour, Gu Yun would have gone home with Zhuang Rui to get it.

Gu Yun's actions made Zhuang Rui more vigilant. He knew quite a few middle-aged men, and he didn't want to end up with them all being taken. Tiger penis was something that money couldn't buy anywhere.